

THE OBSERVER



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Issue 7

SJC Bids Farewell to Long-time Friend

By Becky Scherer, Editor in Chief

For the past 18 years, Rev. William Stang, M.D., M.Div., M.A. and SJC Professor of Biology has been relinquishing 1-2 of his weekends each month to fulfill his duty to the safety of his country. With almost two decades of experience in the United States Army National Guard under his belt, Stang has been activated and will leave his home of Saint Joseph's College on January 2, 2004, for Bosnia. He is one of 1,800 people scheduled to be sent to Bosnia with rumors of President Bush's hope to cut the Bosnia commitment ringing through their ears. In 2001, Stang spent six months in Kosovo and has since not been activated. Stang, Task Force Chaplain to Task Force Eagle to Bosnia, has been an SJC faculty member since 1977 but called the College his home long before that, as he is also a member of the graduating class of 1972.



Photos courtesy of Stang

Students Forge Foreign Policy at Model United Nations

By Renee Pugh, Publications and Media Relations Intern

For the fourth consecutive year, Saint Joseph's College sent 13 students to the University of Indianapolis to participate from November 13-15 in the 25th annual Model United Nations Simulation. The event requires student teams to adopt the ideas and stances of one nation in the U.N. Security Council and work through various issues of international importance with student nations from other Indiana colleges. Topics on this year's agenda included the continued peace process in Palestine, the future of Iraq, instability in Afghanistan, and civil war in Liberia and

Zimbabwe.

"Model United Nations is more of a simulation that builds experience than a competition in which students are scored," explained Assistant Professor of Political Science David Dixon, faculty advisor for SJC's chapter of MUN. "It allows our students to experience both the power and futility inherent in international law. By the time they leave SJC, they will have already experienced the frustration of politics, which gives them a maturity beyond their years."

Dixon also believes that the

simulation allows students to apply what they learn in class to reality-based situations. "I was amazed by the extent to which students used theoretical concepts developed in their classes at SJC to forge foreign policy," he said. "The way in which SJC students were able to use their knowledge to achieve their ends was impressive."

Participants included: Luke Hansen from Kaukauna, Wisconsin, as China; Lea Heishman from Plymouth, Indiana, as Mexico; Janet Hertz from Hanover, Indiana, as Mexico; Eric Johanning from Kokomo, Indiana, as

Angola; Caleb Kopczyk from Michigan City, Indiana, as a Council President; Jacob Lofgren from Waukesha, Wisconsin, as Angola; Kara Marxer from Collinsville, Illinois, as Pakistan; Joseph Milam from Kokomo, Indiana, as Germany; Jean Monfort from Athens, Greece, as Pakistan; David Morris from Fort Wayne, Indiana, as China; Amanda Nicksic from East Chicago, Indiana, as Germany; Sarah Opolski from Demotte, Indiana, as the United Kingdom; Renee Pugh from Dayton, Ohio, as the United Kingdom; and Michael Welch from Lafayette, Indiana, as Spain.

NEWS

NATIONAL CATHOLIC
COLLEGE WEEK

BEQUETTE TO PUBLISH
BOOK

FEATURES

SENIOR SEMINAR DRAWS
TO AN END

SINGER JEREMY WILLIAMS
AT SJC

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

FEVER!

OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ET CETERA

PUMA POETRY

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

When someone is injured in some fashion, it is always necessary to question Why?, conjure up a reasonable explanation, and if having committed any wrongdoing, work to correct this in the future. We can agree that this is the basic framework for conflict resolution, and a good way to avoid making the same mistake twice. This is why I have been confused and dismayed with the American response to September 11th. The overwhelming attitude of Americans and our government has been to call the action evil and to simply respond with military force. In our homes, schools, the media, and our elected Congress, the response has not gone any deeper. We have failed to adequately answer the fundamental question: "Why are people flying airplanes into our buildings?"

On the evening of September 11, 2001, with the nation in shock and mourning, President Bush delivered a speech and offered an initial answer: "America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining." Nine days later, in another speech to the nation, President Bush made several more attempts to answer the Why? question: "They hate our freedoms — our freedom of religion, our freedom of speech, our freedom to vote and assemble and disagree with each other."

Does this really make any logical sense? Not to me. Who hates freedom and opportunity? To me, these are the fundamental desires of the human heart. Bush then asserts: "[Al-Qaeda's] goal is remaking the world — and imposing its radical beliefs on people everywhere... They want to overthrow

existing governments in many Muslim countries." This sounds painfully similar to our own foreign policy and cultural characteristic. What parts of the world are undergoing governmental reforms or Westernization at this very moment at the command of our people and military? I do partially agree with President Bush's next line of reasoning: "These terrorists kill not merely to end lives, but to disrupt and end a way of life. With every atrocity, they hope that America grows fearful, retreating from the world and forsaking our friends. They stand against us, because we stand in their way." We have conflicting worldviews and disagreements in faith and values. We both seek to dominate the other.

So what are these differences? In our nation of free speech, it is important to at least listen to the message of Osama bin Laden. It does not matter what we *conceive* the reasons for 9/11 to be, what matters is the explanation of the enemy. His words are clear: "There is no need to explain and prove the degree of American support for Israel. The creation of Israel is a crime which must be erased. Each and every person whose hands have become polluted in the contribution towards this crime must pay its price, and pay for it heavily... The blood pouring out of Palestine must be equally revenged. You must know that the Palestinians do not cry alone; their women are not widowed alone; their sons are not orphaned alone." The United States, as well as others, has "surrendered to the Jews, and handed them most of Palestine..."

The statistics behind these statements involve eerie similarities. Support Israel? \$91 billion worth of support, according to the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs. To put this figure in perspective, Congress re-

cently supported an \$87 billion aid package to support our mission in Iraq, which supposedly attempts to squash the very problem that our presence in the Middle East has undoubtedly initiated. Palestinian death? 3,379 dead since the September, 2000, uprising against Israeli occupation, according to an Al-Jazeera information site. The current World Trade Center area death toll similarly stands at 2,752. The charges against our government go much further than the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, however. Osama bin Laden condemns American policy in Somalia, Chechnya, Kashmir, and Lebanon. He contends, "You steal our wealth and oil at paltry prices because of your international influence and military threats. This theft is indeed the biggest theft ever witnessed by mankind in the history of the world." Islamic extremism contends that "the oppressed have a right to return the aggression."

You might be questioning my allegiance to fighting terrorism or might even wonder whether I support bin Laden's violent efforts to disrupt American life. Such assertions could not be further from the truth. Unlike bin Laden and President Bush, I struggle with equating violence with the Will of God, even defensive or preemption violence. For me, our divine mission is always peace. At the same time, I struggle in accepting pacifism, not as a matter of faith, but as practical political policy. Violence, in the end, seems inevitable and apparently justifiable. But we must never lose sight of its consequences: real pain and suffering by our brothers and sisters in the world. These are important questions and considerations that, if impossible to answer, must at least be addressed.

By Luke Hansen, senior

PAWS:

...to all the Pumas who took off their shirts to stop the hurt for the Covenant House Vigil.

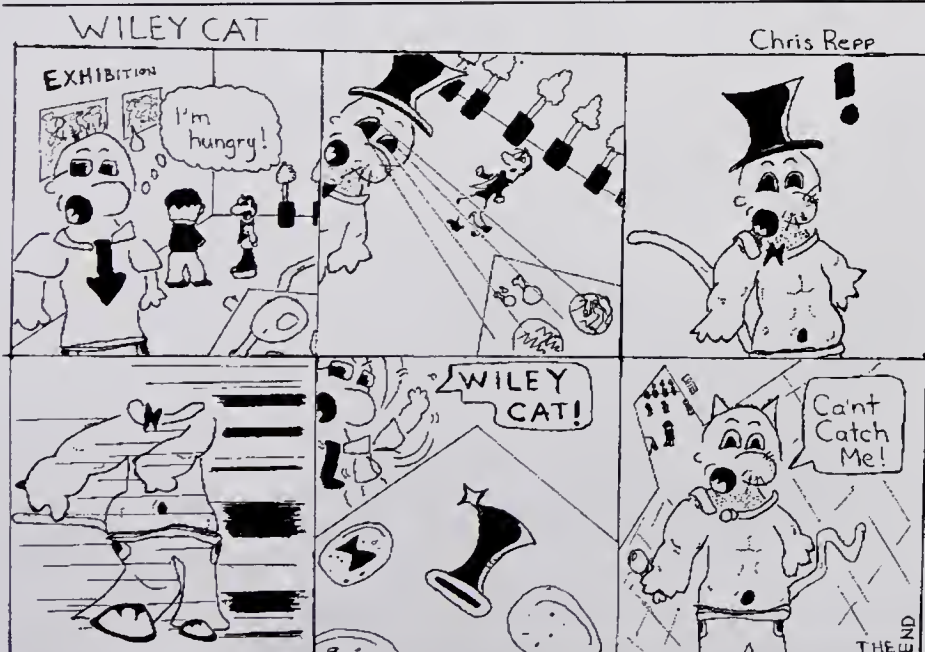
...to Halas and Justin Halls for hosting a successful Winter Formal.



CLAWS:

...to those students responsible for the actions resulting in the temporary closing of Core XI.

...to whoever spray painted lewd comments on the bricks of Halas Hall.



"The mission of Wiley Cat is to resurrect the forgotten area of the early American comic genre. In idolizing such fictional heroes as Steamboat Willie, Wiley Cat embodies both the savageness and raw passion that is missing in pop culture today. His wit and charm in pursuing culinary delights and agonizing Hungry Pete speaks a certain truth to all pumas and I feel that he enriches us through his own unique yet adaptive style."

--C.B. N. Repp

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE EDITORS

Thank you to everyone who submitted to the Opinion page this semester!

Have a wonderful semester break!

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The Voice of Catholic Higher Education in America: National Catholic College Week

Compiled by Becky Scherer, *Editor in Chief*

from the Association of Catholic College and Universities

The 1st Annual National Catholic College Week, sponsored by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, took place from Dec. 1-6, 2003. In the decade of the 90s, Catholic college and university enrollments increased by 18.8%: almost three times the national average over the same time period.

Why have almost three quarters of a million students selected Catholic colleges and universities in the United States?

- high retention and graduation rates
- frequently cited in U.S. News & World Reports as "Best Buy" schools
- consistently cited by the Templeton Foundation as "Character-Building Schools"
- The increasing appeal of an educational tradition that stresses spiritual values
- strong focus on social justice and peace, the common good of society, and responsible citizenship
- an emphasis on quality teaching, on attention to the individual student, and to total personal welfare
- a commitment to building authentic community life on campus
- access to success for first-generation college, minority, immigrant, and disadvantaged students
- a liberal arts foundation, discussion of the great human issues, the development of professional skills and competencies and an acknowledgement that one's life-work is not only a career but a vocation
- a coherent philosophy of life that recognizes absolute values expressed in a clear vision, solidly founded on hope and lived out with confident commitment.

All information courtesy of <http://www.accunet.org/display.asp?Category=18>.

SJC Professor to Publish Book on Christian Humanism

By Renee Pugh, *Publications and Media Relations Intern*

Saint Joseph's College Assistant Professor of Religion, John Bequette, is proud to announce that his book *Christian Humanism: Creation, Redemption, and Reintegration* is being published by University Press of America and will be available in February 2004.

"The book is about Christian humanism in our modern world," explained Bequette, whose doctoral thesis, "The Eloquence of Sanctity," is also in the process of being published. "It considers the basic themes of Christian humanism, creation and redemption, and their relationships to contemporary cultural issues, such as the economy and education."

Bequette found inspiration for his work through both his personal interest in Christian humanism and in the College's Core Program, SJC's nationally recognized general education program. Bequette teaches Cores 9 and 10, which specifically target the application of Christian humanist values and ideas in the modern world. "Christian humanism is a type of humanism in which all things are viewed in light of God's revelation in Jesus Christ," explained Bequette. "The Core Program has continuously forced me to realize the importance of this idea and how it relates to our world."

Bequette is honored to be able to contribute to this field of study, from both a personal and professional aspect. "I sensed a need for a comprehensive work on the subject of Christian humanism by someone with both a scholarly and personal interest," he said. "Our vocation, as human beings, is to reintegrate all creation into the divine relationship."

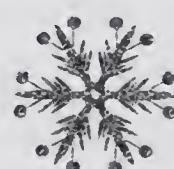
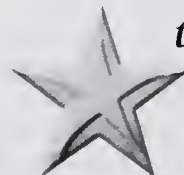
For information on how to order Bequette's book, contact Bequette at bequette@saintjoe.edu or ext. 6270.



Looking for the Holiday Spirit?

Check out the
Band concert:
Sunday, Dec. 14
in the Ballroom
at 2:00 p.m.
Light reception
following.

Don't miss the
Pre-Christmas Mass
on Monday, Dec. 15
at 9 p.m. in the
Chapel.
Music provided by
the SJC Chorus.



DANCE!!



Saturday
December 13th

9:30- 1:30

Outside Core
XI

Habitat Spring Break Trip

Tired of winter already? Think Spring Break in Austin, Texas! The SJC Habitat for Humanity campus chapter is taking names and deposits for its annual Collegiate Challenge trip, working with the Austin Habitat for Humanity affiliate March 6-14, 2004. Come with us as we *build lives, build homes, and build communities!* No construction experience necessary - but you must be willing to have fun, meet fellow Pumas, and do Christian service in Texas. A \$50 deposit will hold your space in the vans. Contact Prof. Fred Berger at x6118 or fredb@saintjoe.edu for details.

SJC Bookstore Sale:

Buy one
regular
priced
sweatshirt

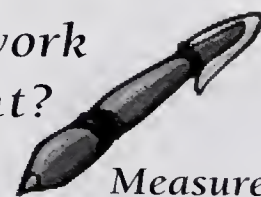


and get your second
(less
expensive)
sweatshirt
or pants



at 30% off!
*Sale ends Friday,
Dec. 12*

Want to see
your work
in print?



Measure,
SJC's very own literary
magazine, is now accepting submissions!
Poetry, fiction, creative
non-fiction, prose, art,
and photography are
welcomed.

No more than FIVE original works will be accepted from each individual, and all submissions must be TITLED and contain the author's REAL NAME.

Submissions or questions should be sent to the Measure staff at measure-editors@saintjoe.edu.

Senior Seminar Projects

Senior Communications majors prepare projects for defense in capstone course

By Katie Grgic, Staff Writer

Most students know that at some point during their junior or senior year here at SJC they are required to take some sort of a capstone course for their major. While each course (obviously) varies in its structure and requirements, each is designed to be a culmination class for one's specific area of focus. However, I am unsure of how many underclassmen know exactly how immense of a workload these courses can entail. I spent some time looking at the Senior Seminar class, the capstone course for Communication majors. The more feedback I got from students and Professor Fred Berger, the more appreciative I became of their hard work and dedication.

According to Berger, senior seminar is "designed as a 'senior thesis' or 'senior project,' where the students show professional competency in their chosen field. They work on a project throughout the semester, having proposed the project in the second week of the semester, and defend it in a 30-minute defense during finals week." Each student also chooses a mentor; this person is a faculty member who meets with the student to offer guidance, advice, and feedback from a professional standpoint. How often the student meets with his or her mentor is the student's prerogative.

I asked each of the eleven seniors in the class for information on their projects, and six responded. However, the complexity and diversity of their responses amazed me. Tim Hayes chose to put together an introductory course to acting that meets for two hours daily over the course of six weeks. According to Hayes, he ran into problems deciding what information to cover. He related,

"The main problem that I had was trying to decide what all I wanted to include, like where I should have the actors learning which items."

Mark Brouwer decided to put on a one-person show, "21A," by Kevin Kling. Not only is he responsible for performing the show, but he also needed to handle all the production details as well: advertising, securing a location, technical work, and any and all backstage equipment like costumes or props. According to Brouwer, he hasn't encountered any major problems, but "producing and performing an entire show all by myself has been a huge challenge, and has proved to be a very daunting task. The rewards, I hope, will be worth it in the end."

John Klemme chose to write and produce a movie, which he describes as "the prequel to Oceans 11." According to Klemme, the film will be about 90 minutes. However, despite the magnitude this project indicates, the problems have been minor. He said, "The problems have been few and far between. With a cast of 12 people needing to be in the same place at the same time, it took a lot of scheduling and patience, not to mention a lot of phone calls, with my bills getting larger by the minute. But that was to be expected, and with two of my guys being off campus, it is a wonder that we made it this far with so few problems."

Some of you may have attended John Westerfield's project; his showcase occurred at 8:00 the night of Winter Formal. Westerfield took scenes from four plays, and then found a supporting cast to assist him in the production. Westerfield hopes to "send the finished product to casting directors and agents all over the country in hopes of landing future roles," since the performance was

recorded on a DVD.

Joe Small described his project as a "radio documentary about baseball players and the love for their gloves." Included in the documentary are sound bites from SJC baseball players and their experience with finding their first glove and how they "break in" the glove. Small ran into problems when it came to actually getting into the radio station and working; he had to wait for renovations to the station to be completed before he could begin working. Small also had surgery the week prior to Thanksgiving break, which he said left him feeling "somewhat rushed in getting this project done in a week and a half!"

Bridget Newman opted to write a script for a feature length movie. Minimum page requirement: 100 pages. According to Bridget, she is "responsible for character development, plot elements, structure, dialogue, and storytelling components." The script that Newman will be presenting at defense will not be the first one she wrote for this project. "My first script was a true story based on my family moving out of the house we lived in my whole life. It was a ninety-five page disaster that I turned in, blinded to all the mistakes I made because I was so proud to have it done." Instead of revising, Newman scrapped the script and penned another. She seems to be much more confident about this one, stating, "I had only three weeks to write the entire script and all the pre-writing, but it's coming out great and I feel much more confident about presenting it at the defense."

The work that these seniors have been doing is unbelievable, and they should be wished the best of luck on presenting their projects during finals week.

Jeremy Williams Performs for SJC

By Danny Waclaw, Staff Writer

Is there anything more exciting than a Friday night at Saint Joseph's College? Before you answer that question, you may want to remember the great entertainment that rolled through town on Friday night, December 5th. Vocalist and avid Chicago Bears fan Jeremy Williams from Crown Point took a night off from his busy Bar Mitzvah tour to perform at the Hub to a standing-room-only-sized crowd. SJC student (and longtime friend of Williams) Andy Cool opened for Williams with several simplistic yet enjoyable songs that set the scene for Williams' performance.

Williams' songs throughout the show were, in a word, hilarious. His references jumped from the Cosby show to Bundt cake, and his upbeat yet uncomplicated acoustic accompaniment added an edge to the spectacle while keeping the focus on the lyrics. Of course, there were some serious moments. One can't possibly forget, for example, the heartbreaking song about the tragic death of Doug the Cameraman's midget girlfriend Delilah as a result of a freak bass fishing accident. Though most of his songs were obviously original, he also included a few hits from popular music, which ran the gamut from teenybopper Britney to rap god Eminem.

Williams' cohorts from Valparaiso also added to the performance with rather frightening interpretive dance displays, guttural vocal backups, and a round of belly whacking (during which they referred to themselves as "Guté"). Indeed, the show would have definitely been incomplete—or less random, anyway—without the chaotic cavorting of the insane ensemble.

The show was most certainly an immense success and provided much needed relaxation with finals on the way. Those interested in hearing more of Jeremy Williams may visit his website at

Styling Sense

Thrifty Gift Ideas



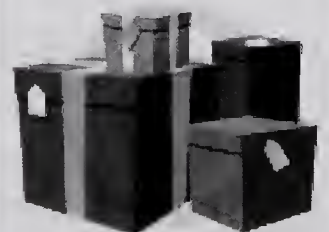
Jen Zak
Columnist

Looking for that perfect gift but lacking the cash to get it? Avoid long lines and jam-packed parking lots and try giving gifts this year that are thrifty yet meaningful. Homemade gifts are not just for crafty relatives anymore.

There are many ways to show the special someone in your life you care without the need for diamonds and cologne. Coupon books have become a popular way of giving your sweetheart exactly what they want, when they want it. These can be bought in stores such as Spencer's Gifts for \$5, or you can create them on the computer and simply print, cut, and staple. Some ideas include: A Dinner for Two, Movie Night, Massage/Pampering, or even A Night Out with the Guys/Girls. If you're the creative type, try writing a poem or painting a picture and putting it in a nice frame that is sure to please.

Ideas suitable for all include handmade picture frames, scrapbooks, and personal CD mixes. One easy and affordable idea is personalized Christmas ornaments. Simply purchase clear glass ornaments (50¢ at most craft stores), glitter or confetti, and a metallic or paint pen to create them. Pour glitter inside the ornament and shake to completely distribute. Then draw or write a unique message with a metallic or paint pen. Another popular gift idea I observed recently is perfect for friends. Buy Glassware at stores such as Wal-Mart or Bed Bath and Beyond (\$7 for a set of two or four). Decorate with paint pens to make them interesting and unique to the recipient. Decorate with nicknames, funny sayings, or even a holiday message for a gift that your friends will use and enjoy for years to come.

It's not impossible to save money at Christmas time and still get joy out of gift-giving, it just requires a little time and imagination. Have fun and enjoy the holiday season!

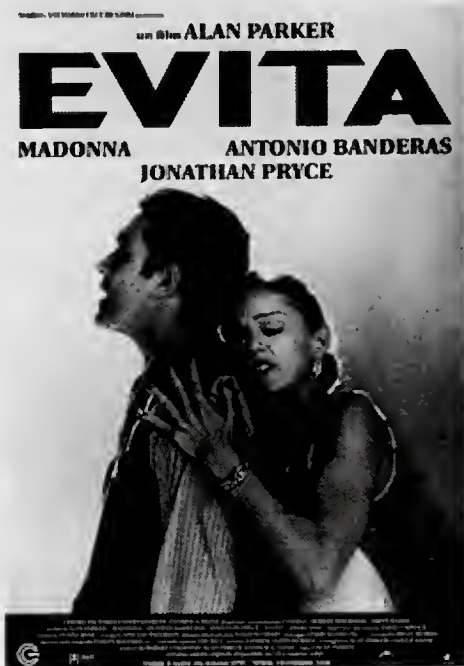


Movie Review *loveactually*

"General Opinion's starting to make out that we live in a world of hatred and greed—but I don't see that—seems to me that love is everywhere."

Looking for a great Bridget Jones-esque romantic comedy? Well, all you need is *Love Actually*. In this "Ultimate Romantic Comedy," Robert Curtis has brought together actors Hugh Grant, Colin Firth, Emma Thompson, Liam Neeson, and Kiera Knightly to make a movie of multiple love stories, all equally entertaining. It's even set during the holidays, which makes it a great Christmas movie. Guys, if you want to earn some bonus points, definitely take your girlfriends/prospective girlfriends to see this movie! Ultimately, it's Christmas, love, and Hugh Grant wearing suits all the time...who could ask for anything more?

By Natalie Lapacek, Features Editor



Reflection: Thanksgiving Break

By Joe Larson, Staff Writer

As I traveled home for Thanksgiving break, I considered the similarities between my situation and that of the Pilgrims who first celebrated Thanksgiving. Like the Pilgrims, I drove a Lumina. This may conflict with the theories of modern historians, but historians-like your parents, teachers, religious leaders, and anyone else who has ever taught you anything—are wrong. The Pilgrims were actually a group of religious extremists who came to the new world in the hopes of joining Al Qaeda. When Osama Bin Laden would not accept them because of their funny clothes, the Pilgrims decided to start a holiday instead. After several failed attempts (Anti-Christmas, Drunken Ramadan, and Eat-Your-Own-Children Day), they finally settled on Thanksgiving. The basic idea was to worship the turkey god in the hope that he would extend Thanksgiving break, a vacation that was already popular among the many Indian-run colleges of the wilderness.

As a freshman returning home for my first major vacation, Thanksgiving break was especially meaningful: it meant that I was away from school for an entire week. Beyond that, it was an opportunity to catch up with my closest friends: money, power, and moral decadence. It also gave me a chance to see my family. My parents said that I had gotten fat, and I said that they had gotten old. We love each other, really. One of the most important aspects of my trip home was re-supplying. I now have enough food to last until the apocalypse, assuming that the apocalypse happens sometime before Christmas break. The only bad aspect of break was that I had a lot of homework. I made an effort to do some of it, but that effort was sad and haphazard-sort of like my life. Putting off major reports until the night before they are due is like playing Russian roulette with your GPA; fortunately, I got the chamber without the bullet. When I saw my grades, though, I realized otherwise. All things considered, Thanksgiving break was a great experience, but it is good to be back to the place where I can commit academic suicide.

Musical Review: *Evita*

By Melissa Alba, Staff Writer

I recently saw the movie *Evita* and was amazed at the musical score. It is diverse, foreshadowing cues from *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, and *Sunset Boulevard*; however, those who are not used to the sharp transitions of Webber's style may find this score annoying.

One song can be soft and heart-felt, and the next can be an electric guitar bonanza that wakes up the neighbors. Madonna's performance is remarkable; she may not have the range of Patti LuPone (who was in the original Broadway production), but Madonna adds valuable attitude to the part. Antonio Banderas is also impressive, especially in the opening song, "Oh, What a Circus." Jonathan Pryce offers soft and sincere solos as well. The song "I'd be Surprisingly Good for You" features some of the best music on the album by Madonna and Pryce. In this track and others, Webber employs his trademark saxophone performances.

The only downfall that I saw is the fact that Webber never chose a consistent theme or style, which is something that many traditional film score die-hards may not accept. As a play that moves from act to act, the inconsistent style is fine, and musicals in film use the inconsistency to an extent as well. But never before have I heard or seen a musical with as much solid music in it. Instead of taking a break now and then, the songs are jammed back to back, and the contrasting styles sometimes cause unpleasant shifts of mood in the film. Other than that, it was an interesting movie-musical.

Stuff



Brian Bugajski
Columnist

Christmas is just around the corner, and in addition to spending time with family, opening presents, and playing in the snow, I am sure we will all be visiting our hometown churches. What better time then for a look at our own church here on campus, the SJC Chapel?

For ninety-five years, the twin towers of the Chapel have been prominent landmarks amidst the flat, corn- and soybean-filled surroundings. However, a chapel of sorts has been present on campus grounds since 1891 when "the Chapel occupied a large second-floor room in the only building," as stated in *College Chapels of the United States*. The building the book refers to is the famous Administration building that was built in 1891 and burned down in 1973. The book further maintains that "An addition was built in 1893, and the Chapel was moved to this new section. Here it remained for 16 years."

A committee was appointed by the C.P.P.S. to decide on how and where the Chapel would be built. *The St. Joseph's Collegian* of 1908-1909 declares that "This committee met in November (1908), and accepted the plans of Mr. Herman J. Gaul of Chicago, which provide for a Church in the Romanesque style of architecture." The impressive two towers stand at a height of 130 feet and the

entire length of the building is 172 feet. *The Collegian* continues with a brief description of the interior which "will contain eleven altars, and a large sanctuary and choir loft." At these eleven altars nearly fifty priests offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass everyday. The *College Chapels of the United States* gives a more detailed depiction of the interior of the Chapel, informing that, "The stained glass windows were finished by an artist from St. Louis." A more interesting fact about the windows is that one was "donated by the family of a St. Joseph's College student who had died shortly before and was dedicated to his memory. The artist immortalized the youth by portraying his face on one of the persons depicted in the window."

The entire Chapel construction bill, not including the cost of excavation and hauling, was just a little over the cost of attending the college for four years today: \$85,000. The cornerstone was laid on May 2, 1909 and the official dedication of the Chapel took place just one year later on May 17, 1910. The dedication ceremony boasted such guests as Bishop Herman J. Alerding of Fort Wayne, who blessed the new Chapel, and Indiana Governor Thomas R. Marshall.

According to *St. Joseph's Centennial Pictorial History* author Father Dominic Gerlach, since the dedication in 1910, "The chapel acquired a new Wicks pipe organ in 1980." The most recent addition to the Chapel took place in the East Oratory, which was renovated in 2001 and 2002. So now you know a little bit of history behind the two towers that welcome us back from every break as we make our way towards campus.

Book Review: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

By Sara Grubbs, Guest Writer

J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* was not an impressive book. I mean come on — how can an 870-page book say nothing and people fawn all over it? This book seems to be a segue between the last book and the next book which has not yet been released. Segues are usually not as action-packed as the books before and after them; however, there is usually more than twenty pages of action. In order to have a good book there needs to be ups and downs in the story line—there needs to be a plot that keeps the readers guessing. *Harry Potter* has neither twists nor

turns. The only action in the story comes in the last one hundred pages and covers just twenty of those pages. The story was utterly predictable and way too long for the segue it was supposed to be. The book spanned an entire school year in which little or nothing occurred except the students being bogged down with homework. This book could have easily been taken out of the series entirely and added as the first three chapters of the next book. By doing that, it would cut out most of the boring drivel and then maybe the next book would have a little action.

Interested in writing Features?

Email Natalie at nli4438@saintjoe.edu.

BASKETBALL



Michelle Wegner



Ashley Fetgatter



Dominika Gawor



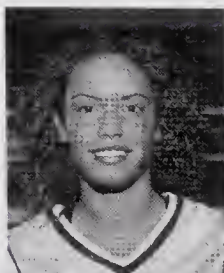
Jennifer Graham



Amy Harmening



Heather Allen



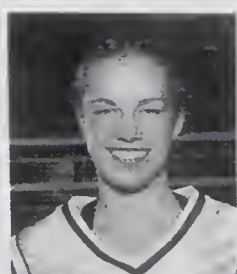
Michelle Bova



Megan Haag



Ashley Hughes



Erin Lewis



Courtney Rosenbaum



Rachel Theodore



Erin Sampsel



Women's Coaches

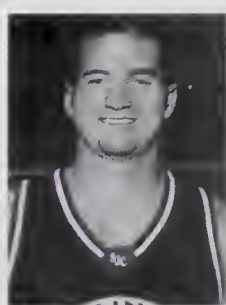
(Left to Right)

Asst. Coach Karen
Morrisroe, Head
Coach John Raff,
Asst. Coach Elaine
Russell

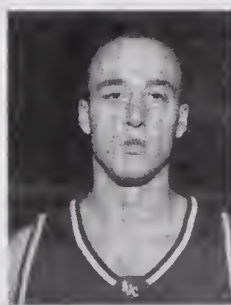
Men's Coaches
(Left to Right)
Head Coach Linc
Darner,
Asst. Coach Burt
Paddock, Asst. Coach
Matthew Koscove,
Student Mgr. Michael
Mazur



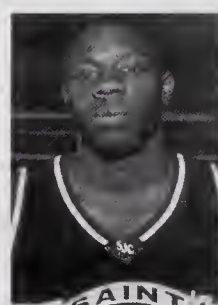
Jake Argenta



Kane Lynas



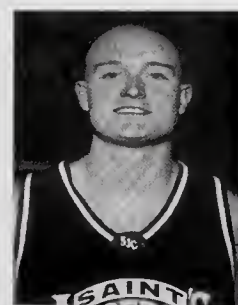
Greg Muller



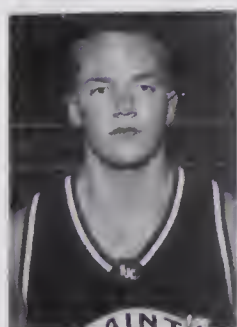
Dwayne Pruitt



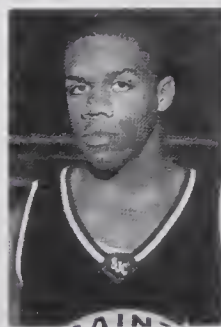
Blake Schoen



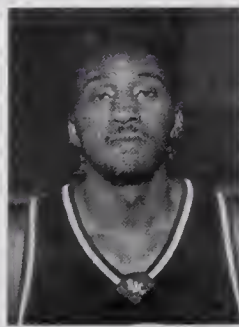
Traver Griffin



Greg Boo



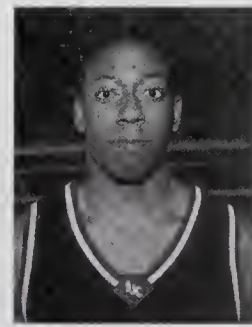
Jonathon Pittman



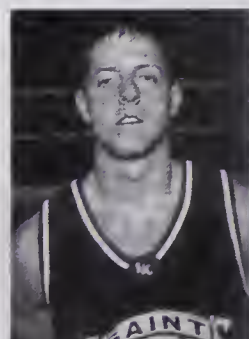
Sherman Foster



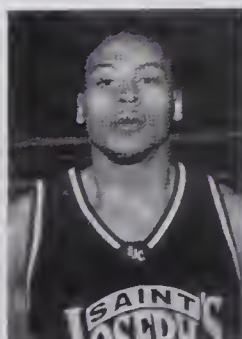
Corey Seegers



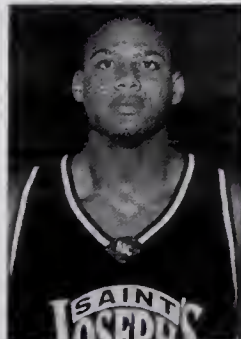
Marvin Smith



Jamie Holden



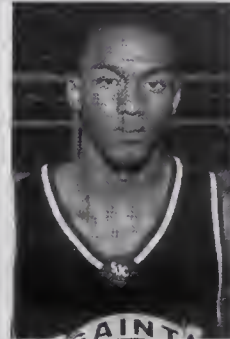
Quinton Gibson



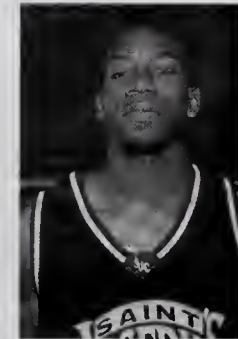
Brandon Turner



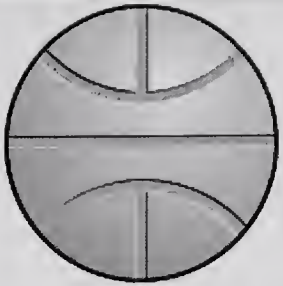
Joey Cuff



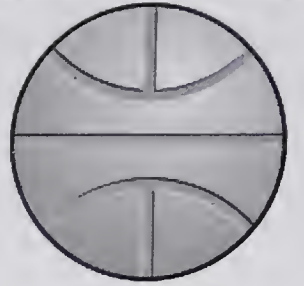
Vynsynt Vann



Jerome Burton



FEVER



Adam Mandon Speaks: SJC Men's Basketball



The Saint Joseph's College men's basketball team has gotten off to a rough start in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, losing their first three games. Before you lose faith in this group of guys, you must know they will turn their season around and it may be sooner than you think.

This year the head coach Linc Darnier welcomed in eight new faces, in-

cluding college transfers and freshmen. This team has a completely different look. Because of all this change, the Pumas are still learning how to play with one another. In last week's game versus the Greyhounds of Indianapolis, the Pumas had communication problems several times. Occurrences like this will happen to a team that needed to wear name-tags the first week of practice. Once this group of athletes have worked together for an extended period of time, these problems will become distant memories.

A second reason to believe this team will rebound from a sour start is to recognize the wonderful talent this squad has. Jamie Holden and Corey

Seegers may be the best point guard and center, respectively, in the league. Holden, a very unselfish player, has a knack for finding open teammates upon penetrating the lane. His basketball I.Q. is extraordinarily high. Seegers' patented baby hook paces the Pumas inside. His sweet touch jump-shot allows him to dominate inside and out, and he plays with passion and aggression. The Pumas also feature many role players, ranging from Greg Muller and Blake Schoen nailing treys, to Brandon Turner providing a physical presence down low. The Pumas also feature one of the deepest benches in the GLVC.

A final reason to believe these Pumas will rebound is that they simply

refuse to underachieve. This team was thought to be a top-four team in the conference. Jamie Holden, the team's captain, is a well-seasoned veteran who knows he must lead this team to victory. The Pumas are in great hands, as Holden is an exceptional leader on and off the court.

Injuries to Jake Argenta and Jerome Burton have set this team back, but I honestly believe this team has the horses to make a serious run at earning a spot in the GLVC tournament, and possibly making a run in March. I believe the Pumas will get on track over Christmas Break.



.....
Way
to
go,
Pumas!
Way
to
go!
.....

Team Schedule

(W) Dec 12	Marian	7:00 pm	Home
(M) Dec 18	Goshen	7:30 pm	Home
(M) Dec 22	Grand Valley State	5:30 pm	Home
(M) Dec 28/30	Amerihost Tournament	TBA	Away
(W) Dec 29/30	GLVC/GLIAC Challenge	T.B.A.	Away
(M,W) Jan 2	Bellarmine	5:30/7:30 pm	Away
(M,W) Jan 4	Kentucky Wesleyan	1:15/3:30 pm	Away
(M,W) Jan 8	Missouri-St. Louis	6:00/7:45 pm	Home
(M,W) Jan 10	Quincy	1:00/3:00 pm	Home



Top Ten Signs
You're Suffering
From Semester
Burnout

- 10. You're so tired that you now answer the phone, "Hell."
- 9. Mom calls to ask how you've been, and you immediately scream, "Get off my back!"
- 8. When your parents inquire about your grades, you sing the Cookie Monster song: "C is for cookie, that's good enough for me..."
- 7. You wake up to discover your bed is on fire, but go back to sleep because you just don't care.
- 6. You've got so much on your mind, you've forgotten how to pee.
- 5. Just to take a break from studying, you actually exit your dormitory when the nightly fire alarm goes off.
- 4. You sleep more in class than at home.
- 3. You leave for a party and instinctively bring your bookbag.
- 2. Visions of the upcoming weekend help you make it through Monday.
- 1. You think about how relaxing it would be if you were in jail right now.

Courtesy of <http://alyxstarr.freesevers.com/humor/burnout.html>

Madame Sandra's Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Have you been feeling suffocated and bored lately? Now is the best time for an adventure, and you will find the most excitement in making a small journey. Think of somewhere you've never been, but have always wanted to go, and you'll feel very satisfied.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Now is a great time to expose yourself to new and different points of view. Instead of arguing with your peers when your opinion differs from theirs, listen quietly and pay attention to what they are saying. You will learn more from listening than you will from arguing.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Your individuality is shining right now, and you have a great need to express your unique personality in bold and daring ways. Others will be very receptive and glad to see the true you, so don't be afraid to let your true personality shine through, no matter how eccentric it is.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Have you been at odds recently with your desire to spend time with friends and your desire to have private time to yourself? You will find the most satisfaction from creating an equal balance between the two, so manage your time carefully to allow time for both.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your mind is very sharp right now, and your senses are keen. This is the best time to begin any involved projects or assignments you have to complete, as once you begin you will have the drive and the willpower to finish in a timely manner. Don't procrastinate, you will regret it!

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Your generous nature can be very valuable at times, but right now it may become a disadvantage if you aren't careful. You must remember not to ever give away something for nothing, because doing so can backfire severely. Don't let anyone take advantage of you!

Libra (September 23-October 23)

Have you been having trouble sleeping, or simply not had enough time to get a full night's rest? Instead of pushing yourself to the limit, your best bet is to take some time off and get some rest, and you will be much more productive when you get back to work.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21)

Your quick wits and immediate ability to find solutions to problems are very beneficial at this time. A problem will soon arise that appears to have no solution, but if you stay calm and look at all alternatives available, you will quickly find a resolution, and everyone will be in awe.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Have you overheard something recently that made you upset? If not, you may soon. Before jumping to conclusions, sit down and analyze what you heard, and you may be enlightened and find insight into your life and the problems you've been having lately. Be open to change.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Are you in a relationship that has grown stale? If so, now is the time to make some changes. You have the ability right now to change the way the entire relationship progresses from this point on, so utilize that ability to the fullest to add some spark to the relationship.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Your temper is one of your biggest vices, and it is important to keep it under control right now. Something that recently angered you was not intended in a malicious way at all, so overreacting will cause more harm than good. Take a deep breath, and things will resolve themselves.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You're feeling very overwhelmed and consequently your mind is distracted and fuzzy. Be careful not to engage in any serious or life-changing activities, as you are not thinking clearly and the results could be disastrous. Wait until you can focus your thoughts better before making any serious decisions.

EINSTEIN'S PUZZLE

Congratulations go out to everyone who answered the puzzle correctly, especially Ann Mlynarczyk, who was the first student to respond with the correct answer. Special congratulations also go out to Cheryl Wistrom and Joe Koczan for being the first faculty members to answer the puzzle correctly. And the answer is...

The German!

For the full answer, see the table to the right. Thanks again to all who participated!

Nationality	Norwegian	Dane	Brit	German	Swede
House Color	Yellow	Blue	Red	Green	White
Drink	Water	Tea	Milk	Coffee	Beer
Pet	Cats	Horses	Birds	Fish	Dogs
Cigar Brand	Dunhill	Blends	Pall Mall	Prince	Blue Master

SJC Poet's Corner

Images

Sprinkler
Wet drop
Falls up
And then down
The arch
Of the water
Like McDonalds
Famous
For hamburgers
And fries
Come together
Like friends
Waiting to be
Acquainted again

Looking inside
The four walls
Red wall
White wall
Green wall
Blue wall
Like horsemen
Waiting for King Arthur

The knights in shield
And hand and foot
Protect the king
As the water falls
Drop after drop
The arch reaches the knights
Protecting the King
And all is washed away
Like
Dreams on a rainy day

-Tim Hayes

The Dance

Gently he takes her hand in his
And guides her down a path,
Through a maze of confusion and
people
Until they can find their place:
Their piece of the floor which holds
only them;
And there they pause until the soft
melody,
Which fills her ears with memories,
Echoes from the walls;
And her heart bounds as he draws her
close,
Joining their bodies and making them
one
While he gracefully sashays her across
the floor
Until they are flying above;
And he leads her to places she's never
seen or felt,
Where she's lost to the world;
Lost in this moment,
And lost in his step and his eyes,
Which speak to her in words no man
could create,
Until the sweet melody of the song
ceases
And they fall to the floor,
Where he catches her in his arms
And holds her close as they are lost in
the maze.

-Sandra Wood

When I Was 2 Years Old

My father's first born child – his princess.
I crawled into her empty throne
and smiled –
a smile he calls his saving grace.

He says he lost a diamond but gained a
pearl.
A diamond is a precious stone – a natu-
ral beauty.
It sparkles on my mother's hand –
a symbol of their dreams, their love.

My mother doesn't wear a single pearl.
The sand becomes an abnormal growth
– a burden.
It stays and stays until it transforms (dis-
guises) –
a glossy stone envying the diamond.

His lap will forever be her throne.
and he will never speak so many words
to me
as he spends in prayer to her –
his tiny diamond, gone too soon.

-Annie Domasica

Want to see your poetry in print?
Submit your original work of poetry
to Sandra Wood at
swh4014@saintjoe.edu!!

Upcoming Holidays

DECEMBER

- 14 National Bouillabaisse Day
- Yuletide Lads, (Iceland)
- 15 National Lemon Cupcake Day
- 16 Nine Days of Posada
- National Chocolate Covered Anything Day
- 17 Nine Days of Posada
- National Maple Syrup Day
- St. Lazarus' Day (patron of housewives, lepers, sextons)
- 18 Nine Days of Posada
- Misa de Aguinaldo
- 19 Nine Days of Posada
- National Oatmeal Muffin Day
- 20 Nine Days of Posada
- Chinese Feast of Winter Solstice
- 21 Yule/Winter Solstice
- Nine Days of Posada
- Humbug Day
- Pongol of the Cows (Hindu)
- 22 Nine Days of Posada
- National Date-Nut Bread Day
- 23 Nine Days of Posada
- Night of the Radishes (Mexico)
- National Pfeffernüsse Day
- 24 Nine Days of Posada
- National Eggnog Day
- 25 Christmas
- 26 Boxing Day
- Kwanzaa
- Day of the Wren (Ireland)
- National Candy Cane Day
- 27 Kwanzaa
- National Fruitcake Day
- 28 Kwanzaa
- Cross Day (Ireland)
- Inocentes (Mexican April Fool's Day)
- 29 Kwanzaa
- St. Tropez's Day (patron of children; against gout)
- 30 Kwanzaa
- National Bicarbonate of Soda Day
- 31 Kwanzaa
- New Year's Eve
- Rizal Day (Philippines)
- Hogmanay Day (Scotland)
- National Champagne Day

Courtesy of www.web-holidays.com

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Do you have an original work that you would like to see printed on the Et Cetera page of The Observer? Please contact Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu to submit your work.